As PA transitions to the Common Core Standards, focus on the defined content in the PA Academic Standards should continue, as well as emphasis on areas derived from Common Core.

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| **Continued Emphasis** | **Specific Common Core Emphasis** |
| Comprehension Skills  (Fiction and Non-Fiction) | * Increasing reading of non-fiction texts (goal of 50% @ end of Grade 4) (Introduction to ELA: Key Design Considerations) * Reading mythology, traditional literature, and multicultural texts (CC.4.R.I.4) (CC.4.R.L.9) * Comparing point of view across texts (CC.4.RL.6) * Assessing how illustrations/multi-media contribute to text presentation (CC.4.R.L.7) * Providing explicit support when drawing inferences (CC.4.RL.1) (CC.4.RI.1) * Citing reasons and evidence used by the author (CC.4.R.I.8) * Integrating information on a single topic from two texts (CC.4.R.I.9) |
| Vocabulary Development | * Using multiple strategies to determine meaning of unknown words (context clues) (CC.4.L.4) * Developing vocabulary through the use of dictionaries and thesaurus (CC.4.L.4.c) * Incorporating the use of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances to determine word meaning (CC.4.L.5) |
| Fluency | * Connecting fluency explicitly to comprehension (CC.4.R.F.4) * Instructing fluency for accuracy, expression, and rate (CC.4.R.F.4.b) |
| Word Recognition Skills  Decoding Skills | * Using combined knowledge of all letter/sound correspondence, syllabication patterns, and morphology (CC.4.R.F.3) |
| Types of Writing  Quality of Writing | * Providing writing activities that that require a response to reading (CC.4.W.9.a) (CC.4.W.9.b) * Providing writing activities that require varied time frames for completion (CC.4.W.10) |
| Research | * Undertaking research projects that build upon comparisons made in text(s) (CC.4.W.9) * Analyzing and reflecting upon text sources and citing evidence in research (CC.4.W.9.a) (CC.4.W.9.b) |
| Speaking and Listening | * Participating in frequent collaborative discussions with diverse partners (CC.4.SL.1) * Posing specific questions that contribute to or enhance group discussions (CC.4.SL.1.c) * Providing opportunities for structured oral response   (e.g., paraphrase, retell, recount) (CC.4.SL.2)   * Applying conventions of language to speaking and listening (CC.4.L.1) |
| Conventions of Standard English | Foundational grammar should be taught in the context of reading, writing, and speaking.   * Using relative pronouns, progressive verb tenses, modal auxiliary, order of adjectives, prepositional phrases, homonyms, and complete sentences (CC.4.L.1) |
| Technology Literacy | * Using keyboarding skills to produce a 1-page piece of writing in a single sitting ( |